

XMAS RUSH MAKES TRAFFIC JAM WORSE

Increase of Vehicles Adds to Crush at 43d Street Crossings.

LONG TIEUP THE RESULT

Sixth and Madison Avenues Packed at Times—Shoppers Imperilled.

Vehicular traffic's increasing size has cut its congestion and its menace throughout all the thoroughfares adjacent to Manhattan's central point, Forty-second street and Broadway. This crush has been felt worst at Sixth and Madison avenues, both of which suffer the same deadlock that grips the intermediate highway, Fifth avenue.

At both Madison and Sixth avenues there was an unceasing battle for right of way yesterday between the motor traffic and the pedestrians. Life and limb were saved at these points by a reduction of the speed limit of vehicles to two miles an hour.

Frequently the conflict between these two elements led to a tieup of the cross-town traffic, jams that brought not only the east and west but the north and south streams on Fifth, Sixth and Madison avenues to a standstill for periods that ran from a minute and a half to four minutes. The cross-town and up and down town streams reacted on each other with increasing frequency until the cessation of traffic at 7 o'clock.

Reason for Jam.

The main reason for this, of course, is the physical incapacity of Fifth avenue to accommodate all the traffic that wants to use that thoroughfare. Secondary causes are the necessity for uptown vehicular traffic to find passage up and down town by way of Madison avenue because of the torn up condition of Lexington avenue and the complete shutoff of Park avenue at the Grand Central Station. As a third cause, concerning particularly the congestion on Sixth avenue, the "L" pillar impediments on that slueaway may be cited.

Together with these fundamental obstacles there are seasonal elements that added to the difficulty. The stores of Forty-second street and of Sixth avenue are attracting thousands of shoppers, particularly the Christmas shopping. These thousands augment an ordinary army that has got beyond safe handling.

So the congestion that is crippling Forty-second street and Fifth avenue is spreading daily over an increasing area. It is rushing toward the center of the city, dictating frequently by THE SUN—the condition of full stagnation.

Take Madison avenue as it presented itself yesterday between the hours of 3 and 6 in the afternoon. North and south bound surface cars passed in one minute frequency in each direction. There were the automobiles that were shunted from Park avenue and those that sought detours from Fifth avenue.

A Rush of Vehicles.

There were the rush of vehicles bound toward the Grand Central, the Biltmore Hotel or the Ritz-Carlton. So thick, so constant was the car and motor traffic that the thousands of shoppers, and the Grand Central passengers were blocked in huge masses waiting to get through.

At Sixth avenue the throngs of shoppers headed off the streams of vehicles and blocked the street cars. At 5:30 the avenue practically was impassable either on the sidewalks or the street.

Children Shot by Father.

Gustave Blum Believed to Have Planned to Kill Wife Also.

Gustave Blum, who shot and killed his two small children and himself in their home at 939 Morris avenue, Jamaica, intended to commit the crime in the State Hospital at Lulu and include his wife among the victims, according to the opinion formed by those who have been investigating. Blum was secretary to the commandant of the Naval Militia training ship Granite State, in the North River at Ninety-seventh street. His wife, who is an inmate of the State Hospital, became worse and sent for him. He borrowed a government revolver from the Granite State and went to Jamaica for his children, Elsie, 16, and John, 4.

They missed the last train that would get them to the State Hospital during closing hours, so Blum went back home with the children. Late Tuesday night, when Mr. and Mrs. Hamblett, who lived with the Blums, returned from the theatre, they found the children and their father dead. The government revolver clutched in the father's hand. Revolver over his wife's illness is given as the cause.

SNOW HERE; MORE PROMISED.

Old Fashioned Storm Is Predicted by the Prophets.

There was a fine old fashioned snowstorm in the city's employ last night, and even in that sub-empyrean, the lair of the official forecasters, 414 feet above the sidewalk, the forecasters noted the flakes, still solid and crystalline, swirl around the wintry observatory. But snow, where folks go about, the snow storm was a bit of a disappointment. The temperature being several degrees above freezing point. Still, in some cool spots there were evanescent carpetings about as thick as half inch Brussels.

Mostly, however, the spectacle was too far up in the air to see except from towers and aeroplanes, and none of the latter was out last night in this neighborhood.

But we may have a white street surface this day, as the national and local prophets predicted. The weather is colder temperature that may keep it frozen all day to the ground and thereafter. Fair skies and coolness may follow the snow.

WAR BENEFIT NETS \$18,005.

Proceeds Will Go to American Field Ambulance Service.

The entertainment given Friday at the Grand Theatre for the benefit of the American Field Ambulance Service netted \$18,005. Gross returns from tickets, donations and programmes were \$19,786, and the expenses were \$1,781.

The benefit was under the auspices of Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Miss Anna Morgan and Miss Elizabeth Marbury. Daniel Freeman and Miss Marbury managed it.

NEW NATIONAL CITY OFFICER.

Banker From New Orleans Will Get \$25,000 Yearly, It Is Said.

New Orleans, Dec. 13.—Announcement was made today that John H. Fulton, president of the Commercial National Bank and Trust Company of New Orleans, has been elected vice-president of the National City Bank of New York. It is said that he will receive a salary of more than \$25,000 a year. Mr. Fulton will go to New York early in January.

Mr. Fulton said that he would retain his directorship and interest in his banks here, which will work in close harmony with the National City Bank. No one had been selected to fill Mr. Fulton's position here, but a committee has been appointed to consider the subject.

Mr. Fulton came to New Orleans in 1898 to represent the Canadian Bank of Commerce. In 1901 he organized the Commercial National Bank of New Orleans, which was merged with the National City Bank of New Orleans in 1902.

WORLD GAINING IN EFFICIENCY BY WAR

George E. Roberts Says Industry Benefits by the Speeding Up Process.

What the world is losing through lack of industrial progress because of the war it is more than making up in increased industrial efficiency due to the tremendous pressure under which the countries engaged in the struggle are working, according to George E. Roberts of the National City Bank, speaking yesterday at a luncheon of the Iowa Society in the Lawyers Club. Contrary to the usually accepted belief, he asserted the amount of productive property that has been destroyed is very small.

The war is not limited, as eminent men believed it would be, Mr. Roberts said, by the enormous financial burdens that have been imposed. Indebtedness is not so significant as it was thought it would be and the war has become mainly a matter of industrial organization.

"When we look over the situation," the banker said, "we see that the amount of productive property destroyed as compared with the total amount in the warring nations is very small. Great Britain and Germany are producing more than they are consuming. The enormous consumption which is going on in the most part of the world of current production. It is a consumption of powder and ball and of motor cars and gasoline, of food and clothing and war supplies.

Speeded to the Limit.

"And all over the world, in neutral as well as in the warring countries, there is enormous activity in producing these things. There is complete employment everywhere, men working long hours, women by the millions are entering industry, new machinery and new methods are being devised and installed and industry is speeded up to the limit. It is these things which all the world is working day and night to produce that are being destroyed, and to the extent that the world produces each day what it consumes that day it is not worse off than it was the day before.

"We must remember that the world is normally gaining in wealth and productive capacity. It can suffer very great losses during the war and not be actually worse off than at the beginning of the war.

"Industry is being reorganized upon a more efficient basis. We know as individuals that it is not always possible to tell whether an event that in itself seems to be a misfortune may not have a train of events that are beneficial.

Danger in Prosperity.

"We are having what on the surface of things looks like a very wonderful prosperity. I will go further and say that despite the war there is a very widespread prosperity, but unfortunately it is not based on permanent conditions and some features of it are in themselves a menace to the future.

"Our people are generally gratified over the importation of gold, and yet you cannot use gold without labor, and we are not getting more labor. When all the productive forces of a country are already in full action you cannot make a country richer by pouring gold in.

"There is every reason to expect a large movement of gold out of the country after the war, and if this gold has become engaged as the basis of credit, the fabric of credit and of business upon which it rests will have to come down. Undoubtedly there will be a considerable volume of foreign business following the war that will be in effect an extension of the war demand, but I cannot get rid of the conviction that there will have to be a period of readjustment for the general business situation soon after the war."

NOT FOE OF COMPULSORY DRILL

Baker Suspends Judgment Until Wilson Finds Best Plan.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Secretary of War Baker is not opposed to the plan of universal military training and compulsory military service as the means of placing the country in a position of real preparedness. Mr. Baker has agreed to suspend judgment on the matter until public opinion has ripened sufficiently to permit President Wilson to ascertain the sentiment of the country on the question. The President is said to have before him now a detailed plan for universal military training inducted from prominent military experts. He is understood to realize that the plan for Federalizing the National Guard has failed, and is solicitous about some substitute one. He is in fact the problem without haste and believes the judgment of the public can be relied upon.

Chamberlain bill in the Senate, advocating universal service, may again be brought to the fore as the most promising solution. Many features of the bill are the endorsement of General Staff officers of the army. It virtually provides for one year's training, six months as part of the compulsory school education rounded off by six months service with the colors.

Actress Killed on Port Lee Hill.

Miss Amanda Bradley, a motion picture actress employed at the Fox studio in Port Lee, died yesterday as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident Tuesday. A car in which she was riding down the steep hill at Port Lee killed her and Miss Bradley was either thrown out or jumped, receiving mortal injuries.

THREAT TO TAKE HOTEL LICENSES

Mayor Orders Police to Prevent Violations on New Year's Eve.

NO SPECIAL PRIVILEGE

Knickerbocker's Notice of Celebration Brings Warning Against Infraction.

Mayor Mitchell told Police Commissioner Woods in a letter yesterday to be on his guard against hotels which might attempt to break the law on New Year's eve by selling liquor after 1 A. M.

He said there would be no immunities or special privileges and that it was his intention "to revoke the 2 o'clock license (the special weekday license) now held by any person who may undertake to violate the law on New Year's eve."

When the hotel and restaurant men went to the Mayor recently to see if some arrangement could not be made for the usual New Year's eve celebration, even though the day was Sunday, they were informed that it would be impossible. There followed a general understanding that the holiday would be observed on Monday night, January 1.

Hotel Makes Reservations.

In the lobby of the Knickerbocker Hotel are framed notices reading: "Make your reservations now for New Year's eve."

"This is followed by the line in red ink: "Positively Sunday, December 31."

The Mayor's letter to the Police Commissioner follows: "As you know, a request was preferred for the issuance of all night licenses for New Year's eve by a number of representatives of hotel interests. I pointed out to these gentlemen that as New Year's eve falls this year on Sunday there is no discretion permitted us by the law in this respect. I pointed out to these gentlemen that as New Year's eve falls this year on Sunday there is no discretion permitted us by the law in this respect. I pointed out to these gentlemen that as New Year's eve falls this year on Sunday there is no discretion permitted us by the law in this respect.

Will Enforce Law on All.

"I note, however, that one hotel proprietor has announced that he proposes to permit his guests to celebrate New Year's as usual on the night of Sunday, the 31st. This may or may not indicate an intention to break the law. I do not propose, however, to permit any immunities or special privileges. The law will be enforced alike in all cases.

You will, therefore, please adopt all necessary measures to enforce a strict compliance with the law as laid down in the statute. You will also please report to me all cases in which an attempted violation of the law may take place. It is my intention to revoke the 2 o'clock license now held by any person who may undertake to violate the law on New Year's eve."

TEIPER GOING ON STAND.

Slater Swears She Can Remember Nothing of Murder.

EMBRYO EDITORS ON STRIKE AT COLUMBIA

Think Their Work Too Hard, So They Walk Out on Dean Talcott Williams.

ENFORCED HEALTH INSURANCE OPPOSED

Board of Trade and Transportation on Record Against Mills's Bill.

VON PAPANAMED IN TRIAL OF CONSUL

German Military Attache Had Fund for Plotters, Witnesses Testify.

SAULSBURY TO HEAD SENATE

Chosen for President Pro Tempore at Democratic Caucus.

WILLIS AND APPRAISALS.

Patrick McMorrow, died February 22, 1916; net estate, \$48,741. Mrs. Catharine McMorrow, died February 22, 1916; net estate, \$48,741.

LAURA M. NICHOLSON, died September 15, 1916; net estate, \$12,242. James J. Nicholson, died September 15, 1916; net estate, \$12,242.

MISS MARGARET MCGOY, died April 16, 1916; net estate, \$2,242. James J. McGoy, died April 16, 1916; net estate, \$2,242.

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